

City of Seattle - University of Washington Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

Meeting #123

March 12, 2013

University of Washington
Molecular Engineering/Biology Building

Members

Matthew Fox (Co Chair)

University District Community Council

Vacant

University of Washington Staff

Elaine King

Montlake Community Club

Betty Swift

Portage Bay/Roanoke Park Community Council

Bill Doell

University District Chamber

Brett Frosaker

Ravenna Bryant Community Assoc.

Eric Larson

Roosevelt Neighbor's Alliance

Dave Eckert

Roosevelt Neighbor's Association

Zac Eskenazi

Eastlake Community Council

Barbara Quinn

University Park Community Council

Cameron Miller

Wallingford Community Council

Vacant

University of Washington

Kirsten Curry

Laurelhurst Community Club

Ashley Emery

University of Washington Faculty

Daniel Nguyen

University of Washington Students

Alternates

Vacant

Montlake Community Club

Chris Leman

Eastlake Community Council

Tom Roth

Ravenna Springs Community Council

Vacant

University of Washington

Vacant

Ravenna Bryant Community Assoc.

Vacant

University District Community Council

Ruedi Risler

University Park Community Council

Heather Newman

Laurelhurst Community Club

Ex-Officio Members

Steve Sheppard - DON

City of Seattle, Dept. of Neighborhoods

Theresa Doherty - UW

University of Washington, Office of Regional Affairs

Members and Alternates Present

Matt Fox, Co-chair, UDCC

Brett Frosaker, RBCA

Zac Eskenazi, Eastlake

Elaine King, Montlake

Barbara Quinn, UPCC

Chris Leman, Eastlake

Betty Swift, PB/RPCC

Ashley Emery, UW

Members and Alternates Absent

Bill Doell

Cameron Miller

Tom Roth

Eric Larson

Kirsten Curry

Ruedi Risler

Dave Eckert

Daniel Ngyen

Heather Newman

Staff and Others Present

Steve Sheppard, DON

Troy Stahlecker

Theresa Doherty, UW

Jon Lebo

Rob Lubin

I. Welcome and Introductions and Housekeeping

The meeting was opened by Matt Fox. Brief introductions followed.

Minutes from meetings 117, 118, 119, 120, and 121, were approved as written. Steve Sheppard asked members to review the current CUCAC roster to make sure the information for their organization was correct.

II. Tour of the Molecular Engineering/Biology Building

Theresa Doherty introduced university staff to give a brief introduction to molecular biology and provide the CAC with a tour of the recently completed facility. Staff stated that Molecular Engineering is the custom design of molecules for a variety of industrial and medical applications and briefly outlined the major uses in the building. Following this presentation staff led the Committee on a tour of the building.

III. Presentation on new Maple and Terry Halls

Editors Note: Slide presentation

Rob Lubin was introduced to update the Committee on progress on the new Maple and Terry Halls. Mr. Lubin then introduced Troy Stahlecker to discuss the project. Mr. Stahlecker went over the project using a series of power-point slides. Mr. Lubin stated that the University is now preparing construction documents and has selected a general contractor. Construction will commence in January/February of next year.

Both buildings are designed to meld into the broader community and honor the existing street grid. As an example of this approach he highlighted the opening of 11th and 12th as pedestrian through ways connecting NE Campus Parkway to Lincoln Way. While neither includes specific amenities open to the public, they include multiple uses such as gaming centers etc, to serve the student population. Mr. Stahlecker noted that these two buildings are part of the larger student housing complex that includes Mercer, Cedar, Elm, Poplar, Alder and Lander Halls is the building with the crane under construction. Lander Hall will be complete this fall. The students in Terry Hall will transfer to Lander Hall over winter break allowing for the demolition of Terry.

Mr. Stahlecker noted that parking is located underground with one entrance off of Lander Hall. Lander Hall has only 24 parking spaces and most of the program space below grade is dedicated to other functions. Primary parking for this complex is located beneath Maple and Terry Halls. Street level uses include the game center and large area for bicycle parking along with the residential entry for Maple and Terry Halls. The buildings will be complete for summer 2015 occupancy. He also briefly went over the typical residential floor plans. The majority of the rooms are 2 bed with a private bathroom. He also noted that there will be dedicated ADA rooms.

Members asked if the University had found that they had sufficient demand to fill the designated ADA rooms. Mr. Stahlecker responded that this varies. Some years there is sufficient demand to fill most ADA rooms with those needing these services and some years not. The University over builds and generally provides almost double the percentage required by codes. These rooms are typically a bit bigger but are not considered either more attractive or less attractive.

Mr. Stahlecker noted that a key element of the design is a central courtyard. One of the challenges of the courtyard was to get light into it. He presented artist's renderings of some "chandeliers" that will "float" in the courtyard. These are 5 gallon water bottles that are hooked to a giant metal wheel and have different LED lights that turn colors. They are populating it with some art forms and there will be some plantings.

Mr. Stahlecker noted that there is an effort to retain existing trees. The designers have been working with the campus landscape architect to clean up the Campus Parkway. A special effort is being made to retain exceptional trees based on their health and plant sufficient new trees to achieve a similar canopy as currently exists within the 10 years of planting.

Mr. Stahlecker also noted that window treatments will vary depending on the amount of sun that hits the panel so if you are on the top floors which will have the most light hitting the panels or on the lower floors which have the least light hitting the panels the light received in the units will be the same.

Chris Leman asked for clarification on the degree to which the retail and especially the restaurant spaces in these buildings complemented or conflicted with other private retail uses. He noted that there's an apparently very successful restaurant that's drawing students there to order off the menu which is not the normal model for student dining. Some have questioned whether this might harm surrounding private businesses. He noted that this issue was never discussed at CUCAC

Staff responded that the University did present the café to CUCAC, but that this possible concern was never raised. Others noted that this use seemed complimentary and that it helped create a critical mass. After brief further discussion members present agreed to forgo expressing specific concern over this issue.

III. Adjournment

No further business being before the Committee the meeting was adjourned.